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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 9014
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4778
INFO RUQMBI/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 1161
RUEHAD/USINT BAGHDAD 2139
RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 1908
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 7198
RUQMQD/AMEMBASSY DOHA 0660
RUEHJI/AMEMBASSY JIDDA 6907
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 2747
RUQMKM/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0631
RUQMKW/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 3922
RUQMAM/AMEMBASSY MANAMA 0877
RUQMMT/AMEMBASSY MUSCAT 0707
RUEHMR/AMEMBASSY RABAT 1041
RUQMYA/USLO RIYADH 0971
RUQMNS/AMEMBASSY SANAA 1034
RUDKKR/AMEMBASSY TUNIS 1449
RUFHUK/AMEMBASSY LONDON 4298
BT
UNCLAS AMMAN 00016 COMBINED SECTION

CAIRO PASS TO CODEL PERCY
LONDON FOR HOOPER

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, OREP (PERCY, CHARLES H.) JO, US, XF, PL

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SUBJECT: CODEL PERCY: DEPARTURE STATEMENT AT AMMAN AIRPORT

1. FOLLOWING IS A STATEMENT MADE BY SENATOR CHARLES H. PERCY, CHAIRMAN OF THE U.S. SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, BEFORE DEPARTING AMMAN ON JANUARY 2, 1982.

2. BEGIN STATEMENT: I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY TREMENDOUS PLEASURE AT ONCE AGAIN VISITING JORDAN. AMBASSADOR VIETS AND I HAVE HAD SEPARATE, IN-DEPTH MEETINGS WITH HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN, WITH LIEUTENANT-GENERAL BIN SHAKER, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF JORDAN'S ARMED FORCES, PRIME MINISTER MUDAR BADRAN, MINISTER OF INFORMATION ADNAN ABU ODEH, FOREIGN MINISTER MARWAN AL-KASIM, AND WE ALSO MET WITH SENATE PRESIDENT BAJHAT TALHUNI. I ALSO MET WITH A CROSS-SECTION OF JOURNALISTS, BUT, SPECIFICALLY, NOT AS JOURNALISTS; ONLY BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE BACKGROUND. IT WAS AGREED AHEAD OF TIME THAT THEY WOULD NOT REPORT IN ANY WAY WHAT I SAID, BUT THEY WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO OUR THOUGHT PROCESS. I DID FEEL THAT AS I WAS LOOKING AT A CROSS-SECTION, I SHOULD HAVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM JOURNALISM--AS WELL AS LEADING ACADEMICIANS, BUSINESSMEN WHO DO BUSINESS IN JORDAN, OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND, PARTICULARLY, AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN WHO ALSO WORK HERE AND ARE ABLE TO GIVE ME A REFLECTION NOT ONLY OF THEIR OWN VIEWS AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, BUT ALSO OF THE BUSINESS CLIMATE HERE IN JORDAN.

3. I HAD NOT PLANNED IT, BUT LAST NIGHT AT ONE OF MY LATEST MEETINGS I HAD THE PLEASURE TO MEET WITH THREE CITIZENS OF POLAND WHO ARE NOW OUT OF THEIR COUNTRY. THEY ARE BRAVE PEOPLE WHO DESCRIBED SOME OF THE TRAGIC CONDITIONS FACED IN THEIR COUNTRY, WITH WHICH WE ARE ALL FAMILIAR.

4. IN ALL MY MEETINGS, I EMPHASIZED MY GREAT RESPECT FOR JORDAN AS A STABILIZING, MODERATE FORCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF KING HUSSEIN. WE LOOK UPON KING HUSSEIN, BOTH OF ALL THE LEADERS OF ARAB STATES, AS A GREAT LEADER WHOSE GREAT PERSONAL DYNAMIC QUALITIES

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AND DEVOTION TO FINDING A JUST AND LASTING PEACE ARE WELL KNOWN. I FOUND UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT THAT U.N. RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 SHOULD BE THE BASIS FOR ANY PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE REGION AND THAT REGIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY CANNOT OCCUR WITHOUT RESOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM. I CONCURRED IN THIS ASSESSMENT. I ALSO EMPHASIZED THE ONGOING U.S. COMMITMENT TO THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL.

5. IT IS MY BELIEF THAT JORDAN SHARES WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES A PROFOUND DEDICATION TO PEACE, FREEDOM AND PROGRESS FOR ALL PEOPLES OF THE AREA. JORDAN'S ROLE IN ACHIEVING THESE OBJECTIVES IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE.

6. YESTERDAY, ON JANUARY 1, A HOLIDAY, I HAD THE GREAT PLEASURE OF VISITING THE ROMAN RUINS AT JERASH AND THE UNIQUE CRUSADER-ERA CASTLE, QALA'AT-AL-RABD, OVERLOOKING THE JORDAN VALLEY AT AJLOUN. ON PREVIOUS VISITS TO JORDAN, I HAVE SEEN OTHER ATTRACTIONS SUCH AS THE MAGNIFICENT LOST CITY OF PETRA, THE ORIGINS OF WHICH DATE BACK TO 10,000 B.C. I MENTION THESE SITES BECAUSE THEY, TOGETHER WITH THE TREMENDOUS WARMTH AND TREMENDOUS HOSPITALITY OF THE JORDANIAN PEOPLE, MAKE JORDAN A MUST INVITING PLACE FOR TOURISTS FROM ABROAD. I WANT TO DO MY PART IN HELPING TOURISM, NOT ONLY BY BEING HERE, BUT ALSO BY SEEING ENOUGH OF JORDAN EACH TIME I COME TO BE ABLE TO STRONGLY RECOMMEND IT TO

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PEOPLE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

7. BUT, MOST IMPORTANTLY, JORDAN, BY ITS STRATEGIC LOCATION, ITS GREAT STRENGTH, AND COURAGEOUS, CREATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE LEADERSHIP, HAS NOW THE POTENTIAL FOR ASSUMING AN EVEN GREATER ROLE IN THE QUEST FOR PEACE. I INTEND TO EXPLORE THE RANGE OF OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE REGION WITH THE LEADERS OF OTHER ARAB NATIONS IN THE DAYS AHEAD. I AM PERSONALLY COMMITTED TO A PEACE SETTLEMENT WHICH WILL ENSURE THE RIGHTS OF ALL THE PEOPLE

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N THE REGION AND THE SECURITY NEEDS OF ALL THE STATES
N THE REGION.

8. MAY I SAY ALSO THAT, BEGINNING WITH MY TALKS WITH
PRESIDENT SADAT SIX YEARS AGO ON MY LAST TRIP THROUGH
HE ENTIRE AREA, IT WAS CONFIRMED BY HIM AND RECONFIRMED
ON TWO OCCASIONS SINCE THEN--PERSONALLY TO ME BY
PRESIDENT MUBARAK--THAT EGYPT WILL NOT BE SATISFIED AND
WILL NOT CONSIDER ITS EFFORTS A SUCCESS AT ALL IF IT
JUST ACCOMPLISHES WHAT HAS BEEN DESCRIBED IN CAMP DAVID.
THAT IS A DYNAMIC, LIVING PROCESS THAT SHOULD SEE THE
FULL RUN AND STEADILY ESTABLISH A PATTERN FOR HOW THE
SETTLEMENT OF ALL THE PROBLEMS OF THE REGION CAN BE
ACHIEVED.

9. I DO WISH TO EXPRESS PARTICULAR APPRECIATION TO HIS
MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN AND TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN NOOR, OF
WHOM ALL AMERICANS ARE VERY PROUD INDEED, FOR THEIR
GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY. QUEEN NOOR'S LOVE OR JORDAN, HER
HOME AND THE HOME OF HER BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN, AND HER
LOVE OF THE UNITED STATES, THE LAND OF HER PARENTS, OF
HER BIRTH AND UPBRINGING AND OF HER OTHER FAMILY, TYPIFIES
THE UNIQUE, CLOSE AND WARM RELATIONS WHICH BIND OUR TWO
NATIONS TOGETHER. WE SPENT NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH THEM AND,
AS WE SEE THE NEW DAY, THE NEW ERA AHEAD, I DO HOPE IT
IS THE DAWNING OF A NEW HOPE AS WE CELEBRATED THE OPENING
OF THE NEW YEAR.

10. I WISH TO EXPRESS MY DEEP APPRECIATION ALSO TO
AMBASSADOR VIETS AND TO THE REMARKABLE STAFF OF OUR
EMBASSY WHO REPRESENT THE UNITED STATES SO WELL IN THIS
GREAT COUNTRY. HE IS ONE OF OUR FINE DISTINGUISHED
DIPLOMATS, AND HAS BEEN IMMENSELY HELPFUL TO ME. I KNOW
HE HAS THE GREAT RESPECT AND HIGH REGARD OF HIS MAJESTY
AND THE MEMBERS OF THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT.

11. AS I DEPART FROM AMMAN, I SEND MY GREETINGS TO ALL
THE PEOPLE OF JORDAN ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT REAGAN AND
THE UNITED STATES SENATE AND I WISH TO REAFFIRM MY
NATION'S GREAT RESPECT FOR HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN.
I THANK YOU VERY MUCH. END STATEMENT. VIETS

END OF MESSAGE

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